

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1: (Currently Amended) A shoe lace comprising a cord stiffened with soft wire, a conventional end piece at one end and a buckle or anchoring device incorporating two holes at the other, which one end and conventional end piece are not threaded through all eyelets on a shoe, but are adapted only to be threaded through a first eyelet on a shoe and are then threaded through a second ~~singly between two opposite eyelets on~~ at the shoe, the one end ~~and then being secured to the buckle or anchoring device either by being twisted therearound the buckle or~~ by being threaded through the two holes in the buckle.

2. (Currently Amended) A shoe lace as claimed in claim 1 ~~whose wherein the~~ buckle or anchoring device is made from plastic, metal, or wood ~~or any other material,~~ and ~~whose shape or design is variable.~~